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26 August 1961

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CENTRAL

INTELLIGENCE

BULLETIN



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DIA and DOS review(s) completed.

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*Soviet Bloc: Rumanian President Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej has told the US chargé in Bucharest that he plans to "visit New York" this fall. This suggests that he will attend the UN General Assembly session, which begins on 19 September. Since he probably would not attend unless other bloc leaders also participated, this remark may be a trial balloon to determine US reaction to a possible visit by Khrushchev. Lastfall, bloc officials made several hints of this kind in diplomatic circles before they openly announced that they would attend the UN General Assembly. Moscow may feel that Khrushchev's presence at the UN could lead to a second meeting with President Kennedy and provide an opportunity to arrange subsequent Four Power negotiations over Berlin. Gheorghiu-Dej also stressed that Moscow's position on negotiations over Berlin was "entirely flexible" and that ways could be found for both sides to save prestige.

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France: There are indications that General Jean Olie, who became chief of the French National Defense Staff in March, may soon leave the post. He had been relatively close to De Gaulle, but recently they have been rumored at odds over Algerian policy. Olie's early departure could adversely affect De Gaulle's relationship with the armed services. One of the key elements in the armed forces' acquiescence in De Gaulle's policies, particularly on Algeria, is the personal prestige of the Defense Staff chief. Olie's predecessor, General Paul Ely, had been retained in the position for nearly three years after his normal retirement age because of the difficulty of finding a successor acceptable both to De Gaulle and the armed forces.

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Dominican Republic: President Balaguer's address to the Dominican Congress on 24 August is likely at least temporarily to strengthen his position vis a vis the Dominican military officers who have been demanding a restoration of dictatorial government. The President re-emphasized his commitment

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DAILY BRIEF

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which probably explains both his selection as De Gaulle's personal military adviser in early 1960 and his nomination to his present post this year. While he was still military adviser, however, one report concerning attitudes of senior army officers following the bloody Moslem-European clashes in Algeria last December noted that he was "also dissatisfied, but extremely moderate in his statements."

Olie's predecessor was credited with closing the ranks of the armed services behind De Gaulle in 1958 and of preventing the development of overt disunity subsequently. The fact that the April military mutiny occurred shortly after Ely stepped down indicates both De Gaulle's increasingly precarious control over some elements of the military and the difficulty of finding a successor both willing and able to command obedience.

Since July, when Olié and the individual service chiefs of staff were reported unhappy over De Gaulle's bypassing them in handling the Bizerte crisis personally, there have been several reports of Olié's dissatisfaction. There have been subsequent reports of increasing military unhappiness over Algeria, particularly over De Gaulle's decision to move a second army division to Europe.)

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The Situation in the Dominican Republic

The most immediate requirements for stability in the Dominican Republic are greater restraint on the part of opposition elements and the re-establishment of control over the police and military to prevent continued reprisals against the opposition. Only a few hours before President Balaguer's address to Congress, a procession of several thousand oppositionists in the capital city was attacked without provocation by armed thugs backed up by uniformed police. Whether this and recent bloodier incidents in the interior reflect the actions of individual officers on the scene or a directive from Ramfis Trujillo is uncertain. In any event, Ramfis might have trouble if he should attempt to restrain his subordinates from further reprisals. Although there are some high-caliber officers in the Dominican military, many others are semi-literate, have no concept of the role of the armed forces in a democracy, and are convinced that they have everything to lose from Balaguer's democratization program.

In his address to Congress, which was broadcast to the public, Balaguer declared his conviction that the government that replaces his after the elections scheduled for next year must be a coalition government employing "capable men without regard to the position they adopted during the past regime." He stated that "reactionary forces," within the government and the official Dominican party, are "systematically opposing any reform that might endanger the leading position that they have held for the past 30 years." He warned "these influential figures" that they will have to "drown the country in blood if they attempt to remain in power against the will of the people." He said he will resign if Dominican progress is delayed by "the brutality of police action and the excesses of repressive violence." He sought to absolve the armed forces from blame for events during the 30 years in which "all moral and legal responsibility" was assumed by "the great man in power." He appealed for restraint on the part of the opposition and urged all Dominicans to look to the future, not the past.

Balaguer's forthright address will win him stronger backing from the moderate opposition leaders of the widely backed National Civic Union, which has heretofore adopted a reserved

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ment. A military coup would probably lead to extensive revolutionary counteraction, the factionalization of the armed forces, and enhanced opportunities for Communists and pro-Commu-

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nists.

On 24 August, President Balaguer asked the American
consulate to make the necessary arrangements for the travel
through the United States on 27 August of the late dictator's
widow and several of her grandchildren and other relatives who
are going to Europe.

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